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THE untimely death of Richmond Mayo-Smith, which deprives American economic science of one of its leading representatives, also removes from our editorial board a member who was actively interested in the direction and maintenance of the POLITICAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY from its establishment, sixteen years ago, to the present time. His visible labors in its behalf — his frequent articles and his numerous reviews of new publications — are familiar to our readers. These contributions aided not only in establishing the reputation of the QUARTERLY, but in determining its character and fixing its standard. His unseen work, however, was no less important, and its influence went deeper. The laborious and thankless task of examining hundreds of contributions was discharged by Professor Mayo-Smith with that conscientiousness which characterized all his work and in that judicial temper which he possessed in so high a degree. The qualities which he required in contributions, and which he exacted most rigorously in his own writings, were intellectual honesty, a scientific method, clearness of thought and precision of statement. He desired also, though he did not demand, a practical aim, and he was disposed to prefer articles that had relation to existing problems. What he neither demanded nor desired was that the views of contributors should be in harmony with his own views or with the theories prevalent among economists or with public opinion. He came of New England stock; and with the New England conscience which he inherited from six generations of ministers of the gospel, he possessed that passion for freedom of thought which inspired the Independent movement in England and found its most eloquent expression in John Milton's *Speech for the Liberty of Unlicensed Printing*. With that great Independent he held, regarding Truth, that "if her waters flow not in a perpetual progression, they sicken into a muddy pool of conformity and tradition." What the QUARTERLY is, it is in large degree through his influence; and in its further development the principles for which he stood, no less than the memory of the man himself, must continue to guide the colleagues who survive him.

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